Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT L 00394 181121Z ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /153 W

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R 181020Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6636 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0394

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR PLOS PFOR MP MA CN SE RE XO

SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ON THE DEMILITARIZATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN

1. THE PORT LOUIS DAILY NEWSPAPER LE MAURICIEN REPORTED ON APRIL 14 THAT A CONFERENCE ON THE DEMILITARIZATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN IS TO BE HELD IN TANANARIVE FROM 15 TO 19. DELEGATES FROM MAURITIUS, REUNION, THE COMOROS, SEYCHELLES, AND MADAGASCAR WILL ATTEND MEETING, WHICH IS FORMERLY CALLED "THE CONFERENCE OF MEN OF RELIGION OF THE SOUTHWEST INDIAN OCEAN."

2. THE MAURITIAN DELEGATION, CONSISTING OF FIVE PERSONS, IS HEADED BY JEAN CLEMENT CANGY, CO-EDITOR OF THE PORT LOUIS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER, WEEK-END, AND DIRECTOR OF THE "CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT FOR SOCIALISM." A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, OSMAN GENDOO OF THE MAURITIAN MILITANT MOVEMENT, IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION. UNCLASSIFIED

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3. THE NEWS ARTICLE REPORTS THAT THE MAURITIAN DELEGATION WILL BRING UP SEVERAL POINTS AT THE CONFERENCE, AMONG THEM: (A) THE DANGER OF THE MILITARY BUILD-UP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE NEED FOR THE CREATION OF A ZONE OF PEACE; (B) THE NECESSITY OF DISMANTLING ALL MILITARY BASES IN THE AREA AND THE REMOVAL OF MILITARY "FLEETS" FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN; (C) EXPRESSION OF

PRE-OCCUPATION OVER THE "MILITARY BUILD UP" ON DIEGO GARCIA; AN ISLAND "TAKEN AWAY FROM MAURITIUS" WHICH WILL SOON BE TRANSFORMED INTO A "NUCLEAR BASE;" (D) THE DEMAND TO DISMANTLE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN BASE AT DIEGO GARCIA AND THE RETURN OF THE ISLAND TO MAURITIUS; (E) AN APPEAL TO THE "PEOPLES OF THE ISLANDS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN INDIAN OCEAN" TO BE "VIGILANT" AND OPPOSED TO ATTEMPTS TO "MAYOTTIZE" (REFERENCE TO MAYOTTE ISLAND ON THE COMORO GROUP WHICH REMAINS UNDER FRENCH RULE) THE MAURITIAN ISLAND OF RODRIGUES.

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